

# **HB206 HD2**

RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS.

Subject to exceptions, requires all plans, designs, and specifications for new or renovated landscaping of State-developed buildings, complexes, facilities, or housing to incorporate Hawaiian plants. (HB206 HD2)

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of  
CARTY S. CHANG  
Interim Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

**Thursday, March 19, 2015  
1:30 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 414**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 206, HOUSE DRAFT 2  
RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS**

House Bill 206, House Draft 2 proposes to, subject to exceptions, require all plans, designs, and specifications for new or renovated landscaping of State-developed buildings, complexes, facilities, or housing to incorporate Hawaiian plants. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) appreciates the intent of this measure and provides the following comments.**

The Department agrees the use of Hawaiian plants in public landscaping projects will contribute to a Hawaiian sense of place, reduce the use of non-native invasive plant species, and support the preservation of Hawaii's cultural and ecological heritage.

This bill defines "Hawaiian plants" as: *"any plant species, including land, freshwater, and marine plant species, growing or living in Hawaii without having been brought to Hawaii by humans; or any plant species, including land, freshwater, and marine plant species, brought to Hawaii by Polynesians before European contact, such as kukui, kalo, wauke, niu, noni, and kamani."*

The Department notes native\* Hawaiian plants and Polynesian introductions are two separate categories of species each with their own unique significance, importance, and considerations. Lumping the two categories via this definition could lead to confusion.

\*From a scientific point of view, a species is considered to be native to a region if it arrived in that place by natural processes without the aid of humans. Native species can be either endemic (found only within a particular region) or indigenous (found both within the region and elsewhere).

**CARTY S. CHANG**  
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

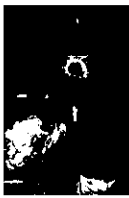
**DANIEL S. QUINN**  
INTERIM FIRST DEPUTY

**W. ROY HARDY**  
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

The Department also notes that this bill makes exceptions for the footprints of exceptional trees and street trees. The Department suggests that consideration also be given for the footprint of other mature trees which may be a significant part of an existing landscape.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.



**Department of Land and Natural Resources  
Aha Moku Advisory Committee  
State of Hawaii  
Post Office Box 621  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809**

Testimony of  
Leimana DaMate, AMAC Executive Director

Before the Senate Committee on  
Government Operations

Thursday, March 19, 2015  
1: 30 P.M.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

In **SUPPORT** of **House Bill 206, HD 2**

**Relating to Hawaiian Plants**

HB 206 HD 2 requires the use of Hawaiian plants in public landscaping projects. The purpose of the bill is to amend the Hawaii public procurement code to require all publicly-funded landscaping projects include a minimum percentage of indigenous Hawaiian plants in order to contribute to a Hawaiian sense of place, to reduce the use of non-native invasive plant species, and to support the preservation of Hawaii's cultural and ecological heritage. **The Aha Moku Advisory Committee (AMAC) strongly supports this bill.**

The Aha Moku System encompasses the eight main Hawaiian Islands and upholds the traditional and generational knowledge of the people who are connected to each of the 43 moku and 587 ahupua'a within the State of Hawaii. This knowledge directly ties into the cultural and ecological well-being of the specific environment of the ahupua'a, moku, and mokupuni. Specific types of plants thrive in specific ecosystems and frankly impact the well-being of the native Hawaiians who are generational practitioners of those areas. These practices have been carried forward for generations.

Hawaiian plants are the foundation of Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices and are used not only for religious practices, but in natural resource practices such as *lawai'a* (fishing), *mahiai* (agricultural practices), *laau lapa'au* (medicinal practices) and many others. Very often, one can tell what the traditional practices are in an area by the type of plants that are grown and nurtured there. This kind of education can be shared in public landscaping projects by planting flora that are known to be from that specific place.

We believe that this bill is necessary and long-overdue. It will bring a much needed understanding of how Native Hawaiian and Hawaiian traditional and customary rights and natural resource protection are embodied in the very nature of an area by the kinds of plants that are grown there.

We humbly ask that this committee pass this measure.



*The Judiciary, State of Hawai'i*

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Government Operations**

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

Thursday, March 19, 2015, 1:30 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY**

by  
Rodney A. Maile  
Administrative Director of the Courts

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**Bill No. and Title:** House Bill No. 206, House Draft 2 Relating to Hawaiian Plants.

**Purpose:** Subject to exceptions, requires all plans, designs, and specifications for new or renovated landscaping of State-developed buildings, complexes, facilities, or housing to incorporate Hawaiian plants. (HB206 HD2)

**Judiciary's Position:**

The Judiciary is in general support of this bill's proposed revisions to HRS § 103D-408, the spirit of which the Judiciary has incorporated in the planning and design of its newer facilities, including that which is in progress for the new Kona Judiciary Complex in West Hawai'i, as well as the recently completed landscaping renovations at Ali'iōlani Hale in downtown Honolulu's Capitol District.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 206, House Draft 2.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



SARAH ALLEN  
ADMINISTRATOR

PAULA A. YOUNGLING  
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR

**STATE OF HAWAII  
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE**

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Honolulu, Hawaii 96810-0119  
Telephone: (808) 587-4700  
e-mail: [state.procurement.office@hawaii.gov](mailto:state.procurement.office@hawaii.gov)  
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TESTIMONY  
OF  
SARAH ALLEN, ADMINISTRATOR  
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE  
ON  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
March 19, 2015, 1:30PM

HOUSE BILL 206, HD2  
RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Nishihara, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB206, HD2. The State Procurement Office (SPO) submits comments for your consideration.

Public procurement's primary objective is for fair, open competition and non-restrictive specifications. The SPO's concern regarding this measure is two-fold: potential lack of adequate competition and overly restrictive specifications that may lead to an increase in protests and/or additional project delays. As to open competition, our market research demonstrates there are very few contractors available to offer "Hawaiian plants," which results in restrictions to competition and non-alignment with the one of the primary objectives of the procurement code. Regarding restrictive specifications, research done by the State Procurement Task Force for Construction (SCR 92 SD 2/SLH 2013), shows that the most prevalent and time consuming issue raised in protests involves subcontractor licensing. It is a technical area in which purchasing officers do not necessarily have the required expertise. Similarly, a protest raised regarding specifications for Hawaiian plants may require that our purchasing officers invest additional critical resources to investigating and justifying decisions regarding those specifications. Furthermore, in pursuit of this measure's goal agencies will require flexibility in order to maintain performance schedules while also growing this market.

As such, SPO believes it would be more effective to require this detailed specification be set forth within the confines of the Hawaii Building Code that details specifications for public works construction and will provide for proper mechanism for oversight or that the Hawaii Revised Statutes §103D-408 Indigenous and Polynesian Introduced Plants be repealed and the language of HB206 HD2 be inserted in HRS §103D-324 so that the requirements for use of Hawaiian plants be subject to a performance bond. This option removes it from the potential subject matter of protests and ensures that the specifications are carried out as part of contract performance.

The SPO previously worked with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs on language that is in this measure's Senate companion, SB435 SD2. The SPO supports SB435 SD2 and would ask that if this committee chooses to move this bill forward, to amend this bill to match the Senate version, in particular the following substantive changes:

- Deleting language on page 3, lines 15 thru 20; page 4, lines 1 and 2;
- Deleting language on page 4, line 6 as follows:

(c) ~~[Subject to subsection (d) - t]~~ The timetable for the incorporation of Hawaiian plants pursuant to subsection (a) shall be as follows:

- Amending language on page 5, lines 5 thru 16 as follows:

~~[(d) For the purposes of calculating the minimum percentage of the total plant footprint for landscaping required under subsection (e), the total plant footprint shall exclude:~~

- ~~(1) Landscaped areas of sand, turf grass, sod, hydroseed, hydromulch, or stolons;~~
- ~~(2) The footprint of exceptional trees designated under chapter 58, and street trees; and~~
- ~~(3) Additional landscaped areas, not within the conservation land use district, within a county as determined by the county zoning agency, including but not limited to landscaping necessary for erosion control.~~

~~(e) This section shall not apply to landscaping associated with a significant historic property designated under section 6E-2 and its implementing regulations.~~

(f) (d) Notwithstanding chapter 91, the head of the purchasing agency may determine exceptions to the requirements of subsection (a) using procedures, standards, or guidelines established by the policy board. The policy board may adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91 to establish the procedures, standards, or guidelines for determining exceptions to subsection (a).

(e) For purposes of this section:

Thank you.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



JESSICA E. WOOLEY  
DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL  
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**Testimony of Jessica Wooley  
in SUPPORT of HB 206, HD2  
RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS**

SENATOR DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Hearing Date: March 19, 2015, 1:30 P.m.

Room Number: 414

- 1 **Office Testimony:** The Office of Environmental Quality Control (OEQC) supports HB206,
- 2 HD2. It is standard practice at OEQC to advise project proponents to use Hawaiian plants in
- 3 landscaping. We therefore strongly support HB206, HD2, and urge your respective committee to
- 4 pass this bill.
  
- 5 Thank you.

DAVID IGE  
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 19, 2015  
1:30 P.M.  
State Capitol, Room 414

**H.B. 206, H.D. 2  
RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS**

Senate Committee on Government Operations

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** the intent of this bill, which proposes to require that Hawaiian plants be used in the landscaping for new or renovated buildings, complexes, facilities, or housing.

However, DOT has the following concerns regarding the language of the bill. The term "plant footprint" is used throughout the bill but is not clearly defined. Clearly defining "plant footprint" is important so that there is no misinterpretation.

DOT is also concerned with the inclusion of the landscape percentages as it fails to take into account the variety of considerations that goes into plant selection. DOT currently incorporates Hawaiian plants to the extent feasible and practicable. In addition to plant type, DOT also considers Hawaiian plant availability, suitability of the environment, and maintenance requirements for plant selection. For example, if plants are not widely available, it may increase cost and may delay completion of projects. Also, DOT facilities traverse a multitude of environments that is challenging to many plant species.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Testimony of  
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
JADE T. BUTAY  
ROSS M. HIGASHI  
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN  
DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:



**HB206 HD2**  
**RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS**  
Senate Committee on Government Operations

March 19, 2015

1:30 p.m.

Room 414

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** HB206 HD2, which is a bill in OHA's 2015 Legislative Package. HB206 HD2 amends the Public Procurement Code to require a gradually increasing minimum percentage of Hawaiian plants in new and renovated publicly-funded landscaping projects. **By passing this bill, the state would continue to place itself at the forefront of promoting the use of Hawaiian plants, an important step towards preserving our cultural and threatened ecological heritage.**

HB206 HD2 provides clear yet flexible guidelines for state and county agencies in procuring landscaping projects that incorporate Hawaiian plants. Currently, the Procurement Code requires indigenous and Polynesian-introduced plants to be used "wherever and whenever feasible"; however, this has not substantially increased the use of Hawaiian plants in urban and suburban environments. By replacing the ambiguous phrase "wherever and whenever feasible" with a specific percentage of the total plant footprint that must use Hawaiian plants, and providing for exemptions in situations where the use of Hawaiian plants may not be feasible, HB206 HD2 will make compliance with the spirit of existing procurement law substantially easier for procuring agencies and their applicants. HB206 HD2 includes specific exemptions, such as for turf grass and street trees, and provides a mechanism for the counties to seek additional exemptions for certain projects or environmental conditions.

In setting the minimum required percentages for the total footprint, HB206 HD2 sets up a phased-in approach—10 percent by 2019, 25 percent by 2025, and 35 percent by 2030. This timetable was developed in close consultation with stakeholders and experts, and provides nurseries, landscaping professionals, and other plant suppliers with sufficient time to increase their stocks of Hawaiian plants. Financial implications are minimal as the law already requires incorporation of indigenous and Polynesian-introduced plants, and HB2016 HD2's **phased in approach further minimizes fiscal burdens: while many Hawaiian and non-Hawaiian plants are already comparable in cost, the cost of Hawaiian plants should continue to decrease as the local plant market develops to meet demand.**

Hawaiian culture is intimately tied to the land and its resources. Historically, each island, moku, and ahupua'a supported varied and diverse plant life. Such plants were and continue to be essential to perpetuating place-based Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, as well as Native Hawaiian traditional knowledge. The connection between Hawaiian culture and Hawai'i's plant life is also evident in other forms: from place names based on regional flora (e.g., 'Aiea, Hau'ula, Kapālama), to mo'olelo (e.g., 'Ōhi'a and Lehua), chants (e.g., the Kumulipo), and hula relating to and inspired by Hawaiian plants. Accordingly, the increased presence of Hawaiian plants in state landscaping will ensure that our cultural heritage is reflected in our public spaces, educating both residents and visitors as to the value and significance of our islands' flora.

In addition, the increased use of Hawaiian plants in public landscaping will help to reverse the rapid decline of these ecologically important species, as well as other native life that may depend upon them. The displacement and decline of Hawaiian plants, which have been integrated into our islands' ecological landscape for hundreds if not thousands of years, have contributed significantly to Hawai'i's reputation as the "endangered species capitol of the world." More than 270 of Hawai'i's plant species are threatened or endangered. OHA recognizes that the extinction of a plant species can result in the extinction of associated traditional and customary practices, as well as associated indigenous knowledge that has been passed down for generations. Increasing the use of Hawaiian plants in public landscaping projects can help to reverse this trend, not just directly, but also through the development of Hawaiian plant nurseries and greater knowledge of Hawaiian plants' ecological importance.

OHA notes that the companion bill to this measure, SB435 SD2, has been amended to accommodate concerns previously voiced by the State Procurement Office. SB435 SD2 retains the required minimum plant footprint percentages in HB206, but provides for any exemptions to be addressed through administrative action rather than specified in the bill itself. OHA defers to the Committee as to whether to maintain the current language of HD206 HD2, or adopt the approach of SB435 SD2. If the Committee prefers the latter approach, in order to provide greater clarity and guidance, OHA recommends the following amendments:

1. Amending the language found on page 2, lines 19-20 to read as follows:

~~whenever feasible,~~ Subject to exceptions as established under subsection (d), and pursuant to the timetable described in subsection (c), all plans, designs, and specifications for new or

2. Amending the language found on page 5, lines 3-18 to read as follows:

(d) Notwithstanding chapter 91, for the purposes of satisfying the percentage footprint requirements under subsection (c), the purchasing agency may exclude from total plant footprint calculations those areas where available Hawaiian plant species are not appropriate for the particular landscaping needs or environmental conditions of such areas. The exclusion of such areas shall be determined using procedures, standards, or guidelines established by the policy board at the time of issuance of the invitation for bids, request for proposals, or other solicitation under this

chapter. Such procedures, standards, or guidelines may be established by board action notwithstanding chapter 91.

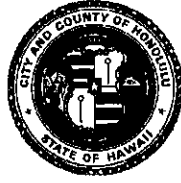
(e) For the purposes of this section, "Hawaiian plants"

Therefore, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** HB206 HD2. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

1000 ULUOHIA STREET, SUITE 309 • KAPOLEI, HAWAII 96707  
Phone: (808) 768-3003 • FAX: 768-3053 • Internet: www.co.honolulu.hi.us

KIRK CALDWELL  
MAYOR



MICHELE K. NEKOTA  
DIRECTOR

THE SENATE  
THE TWENTY-EIGHT LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION 2015

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
Representative Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Representative Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair  
Members of the Committee

H.B.206 HD2: RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS  
Thursday, March 19, 2015, at 1:30 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

**In Support of H.B. 206, H.D. 2, RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS**

Dear Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Clarence K. Nishihara, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Parks and Recreation opposes H.B.206, H.D. 2, "Relating to Hawaiian Plants", subject to exceptions, requires all plans, designs, and specifications for new or renovated landscaping of State-developed buildings, complexes, facilities, or housing to incorporate Hawaiian plants.

The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) understands the intent of the bill but has several concerns. The current native plant nursery industry cannot supply enough plant material to meet the requirement of this bill. We already have difficulty obtaining large enough quantities of native plants to support some of our larger native plantings.

Another concern is that additional funding will be required for implementation, installation and maintenance. The management of native plantings requires a lot of resources and specialized expertise to properly maintain them. Many Hawaiian plants have micro-climate requirements that drive and determine their success. It is important to have the right plant in the right place which a landscape expert will be best to determine the location. Additionally, we found during maintenance of our native landscaping at the Queen Kapiolani Garden and at the Honolulu Botanical Gardens that many native species are highly susceptible to pests. Our request is that research and funding be considered to mitigate these pest problems.

The last concern for us is that urban environments have changed dramatically by the surrounding developments. These micro-climates include the amount of sunlight, rainfall, drainage, wind, and temperature. Urban environments may not be conducive to traditional native plants so an exemption application process should be considered for areas where failure occurs due to existing conditions which cannot be mitigated be exempt from this measure.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit comments on H.B.206, H.D. 2.

Sincerely,  
Michele K. Nekota  
Director, Department of Parks and Recreation



COORDINATING GROUP ON  
ALIEN PEST SPECIES

The Senate  
Committee on Government Operations  
March 19, 2015  
1:30 p.m., Conference Room 414  
State Capitol

### **Testimony in Support of HB 206 HD2**

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Committee,

The Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS) **supports HB 206 HD2**, which with exceptions, would require all new state-funded or renovated non-highway landscapes (and other exceptions) to incorporate at least 10% native or Polynesian introduced plants starting in five years; and increasing to 25% in 2025 and to 35% in 2030.

In the five years before implementation, we could work together to ensure that the lessons learned by leaders in Hawaiian plants and landscaping are shared with those that are less familiar with the growth and maintenance requirements of Hawaiian plants. We have worked closely with the Landscape Industry Council of Hawai'i (LICH) on a variety of issues and projects, and we should continue to rely on these industry experts to help identify needs in research, practical application, and maintenance, and other knowledge gaps as we approach 2030.

Industry experts have also suggested the following, which will be reiterated during the rulemaking process if this bill succeeds:

1. A process for exemption should exist for projects that are not hospitable for the minimum percentage of Hawaiian plants. This process must balance conservation and industry.
2. While the use of the Hawai'i-Pacific Weed Risk Assessment (HPWRA) can be more than 90% accurate at predicting whether or not a plant will be invasive in Hawai'i, it should not be used as the only criteria for planting decisions. Again, we should balance conservation with industry, and use the HPWRA along with horticultural and environmental factors when deciding on non-native landscaping plants.

Also, research and development of native plants for public landscapes, and the maintenance needs of such landscapes is poorly-funded. Much of the work is done by private businesses in private landscapes that have a vested interest in maintaining their landscapes. The only other work is being conducted by UH CTAHR for roadsides, and conservation groups for restoration work. Therefore, if this bill passes, it would also be important to use the next five years to prepare for implementation. Funds for R&D and information-sharing would help ensure success.

Your support of HB 206 HD2 will help us send the following clear messages: that the use and care of Hawaiian plants in public places are priorities, and that we must continue to work together to prevent the use and spread of invasive horticultural plants. Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha,  
Christy Martin  
CGAPS



**Testimony of Hawai'i Green Growth in Support of HB206 HD2  
Relating to Hawaiian Plants**

**Senate Committee on Government Operations**  
19 March 2015, 1:30pm, Room 414

Audrey Newman  
Hawai'i Green Growth  
P.O. Box 535 Ho'olehua, Hawai'i 96729

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*Hawai'i Green Growth is a voluntary partnership of more than 60 state, county, federal, business, and non-governmental leaders from energy, food production, natural resources, waste reduction, planning, green jobs, and other sectors who have come together to support a shared statewide commitment and tangible actions toward sustainability and a model green economy.*

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Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Committee,

**Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG) supports the Office of Hawaiian Affairs priority HB206 HD2** to increase Hawaiian plants in public landscaping. **HB206 HD2** will help advance action on the *Aloha+ Challenge: A Culture of Sustainability – He Nohona 'Ae'ōia*, a joint leadership commitment to sustainability for the State of Hawai'i signed by the Governor, Mayors, and Office of Hawaiian Affairs in July 2014. Native plant restoration is a key piece of the *Aloha+ Challenge's* 2030 target to "Reverse the trend of natural resource loss mauka to makai by increasing freshwater security, watershed protection, community-based marine management, invasive species control, and restoration of native species."

HGG supports amending the state procurement code to require that a clear and progressively-increasing percentage of all future publicly-funded landscaping projects utilize native and Polynesian-introduced plants to promote a Hawaiian sense of place, cultural preservation, biodiversity, biosecurity and ecosystem management.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Audrey Newman".

**Audrey Newman**

Senior Advisor, Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG)

*Bringing leaders together to achieve sustainability in Hawai'i & be a model for a green economy*

<http://www.hawaiigreengrowth.org/>

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i  
Supporting H.B. 206 HD2 Relating to Hawaiian Plants  
Senate Committee on Government Operations  
Thursday, March 19, 2015, 1:30PM, Room 414

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*For more than 35 years, The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i has been working closely with government agencies, local businesses, private landowners, non-profit partners, and interested communities across the state to preserve the lands and waters upon which all life in these islands depends. The Conservancy is a private non-profit conservation organization that has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. Today, we actively manage more than 35,000 acres in 11 nature preserves on Maui, Hawai'i, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, and Kaua'i, and support 19 coastal communities seeking to co-manage marine resources in partnership with the State of Hawai'i.*

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The Nature Conservancy supports S.B. 206 HD2 to amend the state procurement code to mandate increased use of Hawaiian plants in publicly-funded landscaping.

Most people around the world have a vision of Hawai'i that includes sand, surf, coconut palms, and plumeria. All of us would agree that few places are more renowned for their natural environment than Hawai'i. However, even for many who were raised here, there is a Hawai'i they might not recognize. Hawai'i's natural landscape includes an amazing and beautiful set of ecological systems; with over 10,000 native plants and animals, more than 90% of which are found nowhere else on Earth. Over thousands of years, wind and ocean currents carried seeds, insects, birds and fishes to these islands. Once here, plants and animals adapted into beautiful and unique life forms and ecosystems. These along with early Polynesian introductions created a unique and balanced blend of plants and animals. Hawaiian culture identifies an intrinsic relationship of people to land as ancestor.

Unfortunately, we have lost more than half of our native ecosystems over time, primarily due to land conversion for a variety of human uses. Today, our native forests have retreated to the uplands. A major threat to what remains is invasive species—plants, animals and diseases that harm our environment, economy and quality of life.

This bill can play an important role on many levels, including:

- Enhancing the market for locally grown products;
- Reducing the risk of imported pests and diseases;
- Educating residents and visitors about Hawai'i's globally unique ecology and culture; and
- Promoting the sense of place and quality of life we desire and expect in our home.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer our support for this bill.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mark E. Agne Paul D. Alston Alan H. Arizumi Christopher J. Benjamin Anne S. Carter Richard A. Cooke III  
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**To:** [GVO Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [mkhan@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:mkhan@hawaiiantel.net)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB206 on Mar 19, 2015 13:30PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 3:53:24 PM

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**HB206**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for GVO on Mar 19, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Khan	Kalihi Palama Hawaiian Civic Club	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, We continue to urge your support of this bill. Mahalo LEIMOMI KHAN, President, Kalihi Palama Hawaiian Civic Club

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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**To:** [GVO Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [kevin@kuahawaii.org](mailto:kevin@kuahawaii.org)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB206 on Mar 19, 2015 13:30PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 8:00:15 PM  
**Attachments:** [KUA Testimony HB206 HD2 3-19-15.pdf](#)

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**HB206**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for GVO on Mar 19, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kevin Chang	Kua'aina Ulu 'Auamo	Support	No

Comments:

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**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 9:45:08 PM  
**Attachments:** [Testimony HB206.HD2 - Hawn pLants.pdf](#)

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**HB206**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for GVO on Mar 19, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
denise	Native Hawaiian Chamber	Support	No

**Comments:**

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**HB206**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for GVO on Mar 19, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Isaiah Kala Kaaihue	King Kamehameha HCC	Support	No

Comments:

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**HB206**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for GVO on Mar 19, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Isaiah Kala Kaaihue	Ewa Puuloa Hawaiian Civic Club	Support	No

Comments:

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**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 7:36:34 AM

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**HB206**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for GVO on Mar 19, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Presley Wann	Hui Maka'ainana O Makana	Support	No

Comments:

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## **HB206**

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for GVO on Mar 19, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
David Z. Arakawa	Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments: The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii SUPPORTS THE INTENT of HB 206, HD2, RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS, which, subject to exceptions, requires all plans, designs, and specifications for new or renovated landscaping of State-developed buildings, complexes, facilities, or housing to incorporate Hawaiian plants. (HB 206 HD2) Recently, LURF has been involved in a mediation regarding designation of critical habitat and the preservation and propagation of native endangered and threatened species with U.S. Fish and Wildlife, the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, state and county land owners and private land owners. The mediation confirmed that there are many uncertainties and failures relating to the successful propagation and maintenance of Hawaiian plants. It is not enough to merely require Hawaiian plants be included in the landscaping for all state buildings and landscaping. HB 206, HD2 represents a golden opportunity to gather data and information that would help the State and the public SUCCESSFULLY propagate and maintain Hawaiian plants. Thus, to successfully fulfill the intent of HB 206, HD2, LURF respectfully recommends TWO AMENDMENTS to this measure: (1) PILOT PROJECT. First, due to prior failures to successfully propagate Hawaiian plants, make this a "Pilot Project" for maybe three facilities on each island (shoreline, inland and mountains). A Pilot Project may also resolve certain procurement issues; and (2) BEST PRACTICES REPORT. Second, require OHA, or another State entity, to prepare ongoing "Best Practices" reports on the success or failure of the planting of Hawaiian plants on state properties. The purpose of these "Best Practices" reports would be to provide information and guidance relating to the best propagation and maintenance practices for Hawaiian plants (shoreline, inland, mountains), which could be used by other public agencies, as well as private land owners. (HB 206, HD2)

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**HB206**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for GVO on Mar 19, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brytni K-aloha	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT HB206 which which phases in the increased use of Hawaiian plants in new and renovated publicly-funded landscaping projects. There are many economic benefits to landscaping with Hawaiian plants. Hawaiian plants have adapted to the local environment over hundreds or thousands of years, and can require less water, which decreases maintenance costs. Raising awareness about the value of Hawaiian plants and normalizing the use of these plants may reduce the introduction of alien invasive species, thereby protecting our native forests, native ecosystems as well as agricultural and tourism economies. I urge the committee to PASS this bill.

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**HB206**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for GVO on Mar 19, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dawn Tanimoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**HB206**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for GVO on Mar 19, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hoku Kaakua	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations, I strongly support HB206 HD2, which, subject to exceptions, would require all plans, designs, and specifications for new or renovated landscaping of State-developed buildings, complexes, facilities, or housing to incorporate Hawaiian plants. As a lifelong student of hula, I am familiar with our native plants which we rely upon to continue all of our hula traditions from making instruments, to adorning ourselves, to ceremonial use. We typically have to go to the ocean or high into the mountains to see our hula plants. It would be wonderful to see more of the plants that help to perpetuate the Hawaiian culture surrounding our buildings in town. Visitors, residents, and cultural practitioners would all enjoy these plants that are special to Hawai'i. Mahalo nui, Laura Hokunani Kaakua

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**HB206**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for GVO on Mar 19, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Isaiah Kala Kaaihue	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**HB206**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for GVO on Mar 19, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
C.R.P. Montague-Mullins	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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**HB206**

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for GVO on Mar 19, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
LORNA POE	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT HB206 which will require the use of Hawaiian plants in public landscaping projects. I believe that Hawaiian plants are important both culturally and ecologically, and the use of Hawaiian plants fosters a uniquely Hawaiian sense of place. Hawaiian plants are important because they are the foundation of Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, and are celebrated in Native Hawaiian place names, mo'olelo, and cultural art forms such as hula. At the same time, normalizing the use of Hawaiian plants will provide essential habitat for native animals, insects, and birds, which are found only in Hawai'i. I urge the committee to PASS this bill.

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**HB206**

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for GVO on Mar 19, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert K. Lindsey, Jr.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**HB206**

Submitted on: 3/18/2015

Testimony for GVO on Mar 19, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kapina	Individual	Support	No

**Comments:**

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